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JuLY 25, 2003

Mr. Masahiro Kanzaki  
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*Fax: 011-81-3-5562-5562*

Re: U.S. Application of Noriko Kajiki et al.  
For: Method and System for Compressing Motion Image Information  
Assignee: Kabushiki Kaisha Office Noa  
Your Reference No.: 2000-169680/218397/334440  
Our Reference No.: KAN-110/CIP Our File No. 80229-0111

Dear Mr. Kanzaki:

Thank you for your letter of July 1, 2003 entrusting the subject application to our office for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. We are looking forward to working with you during the prosecution of this case.

We are pleased to inform you that the unexecuted application was filed in the Patent and Trademark Office on July 25, 2003. Two copies of the documents as filed are enclosed herewith. Our debit note will be sent to you in the near future with a billing copy of this letter. The Official Filing Receipt for the application will be forwarded to you as soon as it is received.

Please note that the signed Declaration will be due two months from the date of the Notice to File Missing Parts of the Application. We will advise you of the Serial Number when the Notice is received. Please insert the Serial Number on the Declaration and Assignment, have the inventor execute these documents and return them to us for filing. The Assignment should be signed on or after the date of execution of the Declaration.

United States patent law requires that the inventor(s) and all other individuals substantively involved in the preparation and prosecution of a U. S. patent application, including foreign patent attorneys or agents, employees of the assignee and U. S. patent attorneys, disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) prior art or other information that may be material to the patentability of the claimed subject matter. Material information is information that either creates a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim, when considered alone or together with information

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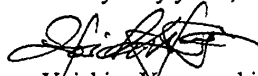
already of record in the application, or that would refute or be inconsistent with a position with respect to patentability already put forth by the applicant. The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement within three months of the application filing date is recommended for such disclosure where the prior art and information is known at the time the application was filed, in order to avoid a government fee which is required for all Information Disclosure Statements filed more than three months after the filing date. One exception to the fee requirement for disclosures filed after such three months is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing art cited in a counterpart foreign application. In this situation the Information Disclosure Statement must be filed within three months of the date of the foreign search report in order to avoid a government fee.

The duty of disclosure described above continues throughout the prosecution of the application. Prior art or other material information discovered subsequent to the filing of the application should be disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as soon as it becomes known, especially to avoid a government fee. An Information Disclosure Statement should also be used for disclosure of such later discovered information. U. S. patent applications and patents of the inventor(s) or assignee of the application which are related to the claimed subject matter and any relevant references cited in such related applications and patents, and references cited by foreign patent offices during the prosecution of counterparts of the present application are very likely to be considered to be material by the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office and should be included in such statements.

Please advise whether there is any prior art or other information that is to be disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office. The Information Disclosure Statement can be prepared and signed by the person required to make the disclosure or, if you furnish us with the information, can be prepared and signed by us. If you would like us to prepare the statement, please provide us with the copies of the prior art or other materials to be included in the Statement and a brief explanation of the relevance of each item to the invention. If the prior art or other materials to be included were the result of a search report in a counterpart foreign application, all that is needed is an English language copy of the search report and a copy of each of the references cited.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service. We will keep you advised of the further progress of this application.

Very truly yours,



Yoichiro Yamaguchi

YY/RSG/TI/yk  
Enclosures